



# M E D I A   R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JUNE 12, 2007

CONTACT: KELLY M. BROCKMAN  
MAGGIE THROCKMORTON  
615.741.6007 (OFFICE)

## **TENNESSEE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING EXAMINERS AWARDS GRANTS TO SEVEN TENNESSEE UNIVERSITIES**

Nashville, TN- The Tennessee Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners have awarded grants totaling \$175,000 to seven state-funded universities. These grant funds allow Tennessee colleges to purchase essential and modern instructional, computer and laboratory equipment to enhance education for students in accredited architecture, engineering, and interior design programs.

"The Board appreciates the opportunity to assist in providing state-of-the-art instructional equipment for architecture, engineering and interior design students," said John Cothron, Executive Director of the Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners.

"The Department of Commerce and Insurance regulates and licenses 128 professions through 22 Boards and Commissions. The day to day role of these boards and commissions is oversight," said the State of Tennessee Department of Commerce Insurance Commissioner Leslie Newman. "We are thrilled when there is occasion to provide resources to improve and enrich these professions, in this case, students studying architecture, engineering and interior design."

Receiving grant funds this year are:

- Middle Tennessee State University--\$3,762 to the College of Education and Behavioral Science for the interior design program. Funds will be utilized to purchase equipment, including cutters and blades, light/tracing boxes, and drafting machines, for the Interior Design Model Building Studio and Drafting Studio.
- Tennessee State University--\$17,658 to the College of Engineering, Technology and Computer Science. Funds will be utilized to purchase GC-MS analysis equipment for the Environmental Engineering Laboratory that will be used by students to investigate and understand sampling and measurements of chemicals present in complex mixtures and at very low concentrations.
- Tennessee Technological University--\$35,000 to the College of Engineering. Funds will be utilized to purchase a universal materials testing machine for the Civil and Mechanical Engineering Departments, equipment for continuous flow and bioreactor experiments for the Chemical Engineering Department,

DAVY CROCKETT TOWER, 5TH FLOOR  
500 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243  
615.741.2241

equipment for the Integrated Systems Laboratory in the Industrial Engineering Department, and an impact testing machine for the Mechanical Engineering Department.

- University of Memphis--\$17,442 to the College of Engineering; \$2,376 to the College of Communication and Fine Arts for the interior design program. Funds will be utilized to purchase a direct shear test system for the Civil Engineering laboratories and a demonstration mirror and drafting stools for the interior design program.
- University of Tennessee-Chattanooga—\$9,450 to the College of Engineering and Computer Science; \$2,278 to the College of Health, Education and Professional Studies for the interior design program. Funds will be utilized to purchase computer work stations to be used in the freshman engineering laboratory and equipment to outfit an interior design studio with smart technology.
- University of Tennessee-Knoxville--\$39,534 to the College of Architecture and Design; \$35,000 to the College of Engineering. Funds will be utilized to purchase laser cutter and computer lab software for the College of Architecture and Design and hardware for the Electrical and Computer Engineering Senior Capstone Design Laboratory.
- University of Tennessee-Martin--\$12,500 to the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences. Funds will be utilized to purchase a damper dynamometer test fixture for the Measurements and Vibrations Laboratory.

Grant funding is provided from the Board's revenues or reserve funds. The Tennessee General Assembly and Governor Bredesen authorized funding for the grants (2006 Public Acts, Chapter 963, Section 50). The Board has awarded over \$1,000,000 in grant funds since the inception of the program in 2002.

For more information on the Tennessee Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners, visit <http://www.state.tn.us/commerce/boards/> or call 615-741-3221 or 800-256-5758 (toll-free).

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